



## Department of Homeland Security Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 10 September 2007

Current Nationwide  
Threat Level is



[For info click here](http://www.dhs.gov/)  
<http://www.dhs.gov/>

- According to The New York Times, hydrogen peroxide, the chemical that German police say two terrorism suspects planned to use to make bombs, is a simple molecule, two oxygen atoms and two hydrogen atoms, with myriad uses. (See item [3](#))
- The Associated Press is reporting that federal regulators, girding for explosive growth in the nuclear power industry, say they are weeks away from an anticipated flood of license applications for new reactors not seen since the 1970s. (See item [4](#))

### **DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report *Fast Jump***

Production Industries: [Energy](#); [Chemical](#); [Nuclear Reactors, Materials and Waste](#); [Defense Industrial Base](#); [Dams](#)

Service Industries: [Banking and Finance](#); [Transportation and Border Security](#); [Postal and Shipping](#); [Information Technology](#); [Communications](#); [Commercial Facilities](#)

Sustenance and Health: [Agriculture and Food](#); [Water](#); [Public Health and Healthcare](#)

Federal and State: [Government Facilities](#); [Emergency Services](#); [National Monuments and Icons](#)

## **Energy Sector**

Current Electricity Sector Threat Alert Levels: **Physical:** **ELEVATED**,  
**Cyber:** **ELEVATED**

Scale: LOW, GUARDED, ELEVATED, HIGH, SEVERE [Source: ISAC for the Electricity Sector (ES-ISAC) – <http://www.esisac.com>]

1. *September 7, Bloomberg.com* – **Atomic Energy of Canada to build more than 8 reactors by 2020.** Atomic Energy of Canada Ltd., the only maker of power plants that do not need enriched uranium, plans to build more than eight reactors by 2020 as orders pick up after a two-decade lull. The Canadian builder aims to expand in countries where it has already completed plants, including China, Canada, Argentina and Romania said the vice president for reactor development.

Source: <http://www.bloomberg.com/apps/news?pid=20601082&sid=akdLH5SrLhoU>

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## **Chemical Industry**

2. *September 7, cbs3.com* – **Lab technician indicted for alleged chemical weapons.** A former laboratory technician has been indicted under a chemical weapon law. The technician is accused of putting deadly chemicals in the mailbox of her husband's alleged mistress. The indictment charges that the accused woman took potassium dichromate from a facility in suburban Philadelphia where she worked last year, and then placed the toxic chemicals in the mailbox and car tailpipe of another woman. No injuries were reported.  
Source: [http://cbs3.com/local/local\\_story\\_250094603.html](http://cbs3.com/local/local_story_250094603.html)
3. *September 6, New York Times* – **An everyday substance, potent when concentrated.** Hydrogen peroxide, the chemical that German police say two terrorism suspects planned to use to make bombs, is a simple molecule — two oxygen atoms and two hydrogen atoms — with myriad uses. The hydrogen peroxide available in drugstores is just 3 percent hydrogen peroxide by weight; the other 97 percent is water. But at greater concentrations, above 70 percent, hydrogen peroxide can be used as a rocket propellant — or as an ingredient for explosives. The suspects arrested in Germany on Tuesday had obtained 1,500 pounds of moderately concentrated solution, made up of 35 percent hydrogen peroxide. The federal Department of Transportation regulates solutions containing 8 percent or more hydrogen peroxide by weight as hazardous materials.  
Source:  
[http://www.nytimes.com/2007/09/06/world/europe/06peroxide.html?\\_r=1&oref=slogin](http://www.nytimes.com/2007/09/06/world/europe/06peroxide.html?_r=1&oref=slogin)

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## **Nuclear Reactors, Materials, and Waste**

4. *September 7, AP* – **Flood of new nuclear reactors expected.** Federal regulators, girding for explosive growth in the nuclear power industry, say they are weeks away from an anticipated flood of license applications for new reactors not seen since the 1970s. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission expects to receive new fast-tracked combined construction and operating license applications for as many as 29 reactors at 20 sites, most in the South, over the next three years. The first could come as early as October 1, the start of the federal fiscal year. Growing electricity demand, energy supply security concerns and greenhouse gas emissions from fossil fuels are driving a nuclear revival in this country after a three-decade chill.  
Source: [http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/20070907/ap\\_on\\_bi\\_ge/new\\_reactors\\_1](http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/20070907/ap_on_bi_ge/new_reactors_1)
5. *September 7, The Daily Californian* – **California Berkeley gets grant for nuclear defense.** University of California Berkeley researchers will be working on a new project to improve nuclear defense technology, using a \$1.4 million grant the campus received from the Department of Homeland Security and the National Science Foundation last month. The grant, called the Academic Research Initiative, is one of the first academic initiatives by the department's Domestic Nuclear Detection Office aimed at eliminating the threat of nuclear terrorism, said the deputy assistant director for the office.  
Source: <http://www.dailycal.org/sharticle.php?id=25877>

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## **Defense Industrial Base Sector**

6. *September 6, GovernmentExecutive.com* – **GAO urges Air Force to reopen helicopter contract.** The Air Force's \$15 billion program to replace its aging fleet of search and rescue helicopters has been thrown into flux after the Government Accountability Office concluded that the service should allow two losing bidders to revise their proposals. In a move that will almost certainly delay the signing of a final contract, GAO recently upheld the latest round of contract protests by Lockheed Martin Corporation and Sikorsky Aircraft Corporation. The decision is nonbinding, but agencies ordinarily comply with GAO rulings. A source familiar with the helicopter contract negotiations, who asked to remain anonymous, expected that within the next few weeks, the Air Force will comply with GAO's ruling and allow the bidders to fully update their proposals. The Air Force wants to have its first squadron of new CSAR-X aircraft ready by September 2012.

Source: [http://www.govexec.com/story\\_page.cfm?articleid=37953&dcn=todaysnews](http://www.govexec.com/story_page.cfm?articleid=37953&dcn=todaysnews)

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## **Banking and Finance Sector**

7. *September 07, Security Products Online* – **Credit card technology dries up terrorists' 'cash cow'.** A leading expert on terrorism and financial crime says protecting credit card data is critical to eliminating a major source of funding for terrorist organizations. According to the former FBI Section Chief for financial crimes, credit card fraud is a low-risk, high-reward way for terrorists to get the money they need to operate. Further, since terrorists have become adept at hacking into computer systems to steal card data, technology that removes credit card data from computer systems effectively chokes off this revenue stream. The expert cited the case of Imam Samudra who was convicted of masterminding the Bali bombing in Indonesia. “After he was arrested, he wrote a jailhouse manifesto that urged fellow terrorists to hack into computer systems and steal credit card data. He called it the 'cash cow' for radical organizations,” he said. Once the card data is stolen, terrorists then use it to generate cash or to directly purchase items such as weapons, bomb-making materials and night-vision goggles. “They are very adept at exploiting weaknesses in the financial system, such as vulnerable credit card data in computers,” explained the expert, now a Senior Vice President with Corporate Risk Management International. One provider of enterprise payment solutions has developed payment processing technology that combats credit card theft by removing all useable card data at the merchant level so it can never be stolen and used by terrorist organizations. Instead of storing actual credit card numbers, the data is converted to a token: a globally unique, randomized representation of the card number. Only the token is stored in the system. Tokenization is superior to simple encryption because sensitive personal card data is never in the system and is thus never available to hackers or dishonest employees.

Source: <http://www.secprodonline.com/articles/50158/>

8. *September 7, The Washington Post* – **4 plead guilty in stock-manipulation scam.** A case involving four men accused of manipulating stocks of 15 small, privately owned companies, opened on Thursday in the Alexandria federal court. The four suspects were part of a ring that offered “to help companies sell stock, then hyped the shares' prices by trading them among conspirators and issuing spam e-mails to mislead prospective investors,” according to a statement from the Justice Department. The case was unveiled by the Securities and Exchange

Commission (SEC), which is trying to crack down on the increasing stock-scam cases. According to SEC, “the maximum penalties for the criminal conspiracy charges are five years in prison and a \$250,000 fine. To settle the SEC suit, two of the defendants must forfeit \$3.3 million in profits and interest.”

Source: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2007/09/06/AR2007090602578.html?hpid=sec-business>

9. *September 6, Consumer Affairs* – **Connecticut sues brokers, realtors in alleged subprime scam.** Several Connecticut residents, who have been victimized by fraudulent lending companies, filed a lawsuit against their financial predators. "We allege that this predatory lending scheme enticed consumers with false promises of profits from investment rental properties and nonexistent management services for tax and mortgage payments and other expenses," Connecticut Attorney General said. The Attorney General said that homebuyers were purposefully encouraged to buy properties whose values were inflated, using mortgages with concealed costs that they could never realistically afford, because their incomes and assets were falsified with bogus bank and employer records. Many of the victims were immigrants with limited English abilities and low-income homebuyers. The lawsuit is seeking restitution for those victimized, an order preventing further violations, and civil penalties to the state.

Source: [http://www.consumeraffairs.com/news04/2007/09/ct\\_brokers.html](http://www.consumeraffairs.com/news04/2007/09/ct_brokers.html)

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## **Transportation and Border Security Sector**

10. *September 7, Journal & Courier Online* – **State giving Carmel \$90 million to take over highway.** The Indiana Department of Transportation announced a \$90 million project for maintenance expenses for Indiana 431 in the congested suburban area north of Indianapolis. The party in charge of the project is the city of Carmel, which will “lower the road and build six roundabout-style interchanges with cross-streets.” The project was criticized by some politicians, who considered the senator’s approval of the plan a misplaced priority given the fact that Indiana is presently suffering from a property tax crisis.
- Source: <http://www.jconline.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20070907/NEWS09/70907002>
11. *September 6, Salem-News* – **Senators introduce legislation to restore America’s aging roads, rail lines and bridges.** A group of senators introduced yesterday the new “Build America Bonds Act,” which will allocate \$50 billion infrastructure repairs. The act, which received wide support from numerous business, labor and transportation infrastructure associations, was authorized in addition to what the states receive currently from the existing Federal Transportation program. Both corporate and individual investors will be eligible to purchase bonds, and the resulting funds will be “controlled by the states and could not be earmarked for Congressional pet projects.” The funds will be divided equally among all states and will be used for projects on all modes of transportation including roads, rail, ports, waterways and transit.
- Source: [http://www.salem-news.com/articles/september062007/wyden\\_roads\\_9607.php](http://www.salem-news.com/articles/september062007/wyden_roads_9607.php)
12. *September 6, New York Times* – **Federal plan to re-route flights faces opposition.** A decade old FAA plan failed to gain the approval of New York officials. The federal strategy

aimed at reducing delays at New York-area airports called for the re-routing of flights, but officials worry about “noisy jets flying over areas unaccustomed to such traffic.” According to a recent study, the new plan would cause a 20 percent decrease in flight delays by 2011 solely by providing more routes for takeoffs. On top of that, “more direct flight paths and steeper takeoffs, which get jetliners into thinner air more rapidly, would curb fuel usage and save \$248 million a year,” the F.A.A. said. Nevertheless, both local residents and state legislators opposed the plan because of the increased amount of noise.

Source: <http://www.nytimes.com/2007/09/06/washington/05cnd-flights.html?ex=1346731200&en=8fe3d658785e1331&ei=5088&partner=rssnyt&emc=rss>

13. *September 6, U.S. Customs and Border Protection* – **U.S. Customs and Border Protection officers make major outbound cocaine seizure at Blaine, Wash.** U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) officers arrested a woman trying to smuggle 77 pounds of cocaine worth one million dollars through the Peace Arch port of entry. The narcotics were found in a compartment under the spare tire in the rear cargo section of a Ford Explorer headed for Canada. The woman, a Canadian citizen, had her first appearance in the U.S. District Court in Seattle on September 4.  
Source: [http://cbp.gov/xp/cgov/newsroom/news\\_releases/09062007\\_2.xml](http://cbp.gov/xp/cgov/newsroom/news_releases/09062007_2.xml)
14. *September 6, Fox News* – **ECO-Friendly catamaran kicks off world waterway protection tour.** Collaboration between the United States and Italian researchers produced a new catamaran intended for rescue missions, research and ocean exploration. The spider-like vessel, named Proteus after the ancient sea god and guardian of all marine life, made its inaugural appearance in the New York Harbor, and will travel over the next two years to North Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Texas and California. “The mission intends to draw attention to man-made threats to marine protected areas such as habitat damage, pollution, threatened wildlife populations and recovering fish stocks and show these problems are the same around the globe,” according to a report published by TechWeb. The vessel is 100 feet long and 50 feet wide, and fully capable of crossing the ocean. Some of the catamaran’s eco-friendly features are low fuel consumption, low draft, minimal wake at high speed and soft hulls.  
Source: <http://www.foxnews.com/story/0,2933,295975,00.html>

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## **Postal and Shipping Sector**

15. *September 7, Virginian-Pilot* – **There's a big company behind Portsmouth's big new cargo terminal.** The Danish conglomerate A.P. Moller-Maersk Group opened a cargo terminal in Portsmouth, Virginia today. The company operates the world’s largest container ships, constructs ships, and drills for oil, among other endeavors. In Virginia, the cargo terminal will join a shipping line customer service center, warehouses, a trucking company, and the headquarters for a U.S.-flagged shipping line.  
Source: <http://content.hamptonroads.com/story.cfm?story=131940&ran=3331>
16. *September 6, KNSD News, San Diego, CA* – **U.S. grants permit to Mexican truck firm.** Permission was granted to Transportes Olympic, a Mexican trucking company, by the U.S. Transportation Department, in accordance with a requirement of the North American Free

Trade Agreement. Stagecoach Cartage & Distribution Inc. of El Paso, Texas was recently granted permission to travel anywhere in Mexico. Under a one year pilot program, the U.S. plans to give authority to 100 trucking companies by the end of this year to travel anywhere in the U.S. Mexico will reciprocate. Trucking unions are not pleased with the situation, but federal officials claim that it will lower the cost of goods imported from Mexico.

Source: <http://www.nbcsandiego.com/news/14062914/detail.html>

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## **Agriculture and Food Sector**

17. *September 7, CNN* – **Scientists find clue in mystery of the vanishing bees.** Colony collapse disorder has killed up to 90 percent of colonies in some U.S. beekeeping operations, imperiling crops largely dependent upon bees for pollination, such as oranges, blueberries, apples and almonds. The U.S. Department of Agriculture says honey bees are responsible for pollinating \$15 billion worth of crops each year in the United States. More than 90 fruits and vegetables worldwide depend on them for pollination. Signs of colony collapse disorder were first reported in the United States in 2004, the same year American beekeepers started importing bees from Australia. Australian researchers now believe that the Israeli Acute Paralysis Virus (IAPV), in combination with other factors is to blame. The virus is found in healthy bees in Australia, where there have been no cases of colony collapse. Researchers point to genetic weakness bred into bees over time, pathogens spread by parasites, the effects of pesticides and pollutants, and other factors in combination with IAPV.

Source: <http://www.cnn.com/2007/TECH/science/09/06/bee.disorder/index.html>

18. *September 7, The Grand Island Independent* – **Nelson co-sponsors bill to save Farm Service Agency offices.** Sen. Ben Nelson said Thursday he is co-sponsoring legislation that would prevent Farm Service Agency (FSA) office closings for one year from the date of the bill's enactment. Last month, U.S. Agriculture Secretary Mike Johanns announced the closings, which included a number of local offices in Nebraska and were to take effect within 120 days. A similar bill has already been introduced in the House of Representatives. Nelson said that with drought relief sign-ups beginning soon and distributions later this year, and with a new farm bill being developed, it doesn't make much sense to alter the on-the-ground resources available to producers right now.

Source: [http://www.theindependent.com/stories/09072007/new\\_nelson07.shtml](http://www.theindependent.com/stories/09072007/new_nelson07.shtml)

19. *September 7, Associated Press* – **Farmers struggle with insurance costs.** The cost of health care in the U.S. is hurting many family farmers and ranchers who struggle to pay high premiums and out-of-pocket expenses, a new report has found. About 90 percent of the more than 2,000 farmers and ranchers who were surveyed said they had some sort of health coverage, according to the 2007 Health Insurance Survey of Farm and Ranch Operators released Thursday. However, many complained of high premiums, and more than a quarter said high out-of-pocket insurance costs were creating financial problems, the report found. The money problems included using up savings, being forced to take off-farm employment, delaying investments in their operation, and difficulty paying rent, mortgage and other bills. Most of the 10 percent of respondents who reported that all, or at least one family member was not insured at some point in 2006, said they did not have coverage because it was too



expensive. Researchers pointed out that farmers and ranchers often must purchase more expensive insurance because they do not have an employer-sponsored plan to help offset costs. Source: [http://ap.google.com/article/ALeqM5gw\\_zZF1KvGs6UymHBrdVk--OrQaw](http://ap.google.com/article/ALeqM5gw_zZF1KvGs6UymHBrdVk--OrQaw)

20. *September 7, Cattle Network* – **Cattle update: S. Korea revokes trade permit for Cargill plant.** Cargill Meat Solutions is looking into how a box of bone-in beef short ribs wound up in a shipment of 1,188 boxes of chuck eye to South Korea, which prompted Seoul to revoke the trade permit of the company's Dodge City, Kan., plant. Korean import regulations prohibit the inclusion of bones in beef shipments. "We will prepare a report for USDA and go from there," a Cargill spokesman told Meatingplace.com. Seoul has now banned imports from four of Cargill's five beef plants.  
Source: <http://www.cattlenetwork.com/content.asp?contentid=158028>
21. *September 6, Cattle Network* – **Costa Rica will allow imports of cattle over 30 months of age.** The USDA announced Wednesday that Costa Rica will allow imports of U.S. cattle of all ages born after implementation of the U.S. ruminant-to-ruminant feed ban in 1997. While Costa Rica is a very small importer of live U.S. cattle, USDA sees the move as a victory in the battle to return cattle and meat-export levels to those before 2003 when bovine spongiform encephalopathy concerns sharply curtailed U.S. beef exports.  
Source: <http://www.cattlenetwork.com/content.asp?contentid=157925>

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## **Water Sector**

22. *September 7, Hartford Courant* – **Anxiously waiting for water.** Dry weather continues to affect water levels in eastern Connecticut. Particularly hard hit are farmers, many of whom do not have irrigation systems and, in the absence of rain, use water from rivers and ponds, further lowering the water level. The University of Connecticut instituted mandatory water conservation on Tuesday, which will last until the water level of the Fenton River returns to normal. Other towns encouraged voluntary water conservation. The U.S. Weather Service predicts rain for Sunday through Wednesday, but the region would need at least six inches of rain in September for water levels to return to normal.  
Source: <http://www.courant.com/news/local/hc-ctdrought0907.artsep07,0,1750129.story>
23. *September 7, Modesto Bee* – **Plan to divert water to SF draws flood of concerns.** The San Francisco Planning Department released an environmental impact report on their plan to upgrade the Hetch Hetchy water system. The improvements are necessary, according to the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission, in order for the system to better withstand earthquakes. Currently, a major earthquake would disrupt the flow of water to San Francisco for 30-60 days, impacting the economy, society, and public health. A more contentious part of the plan is the proposal to draw more water (up to 25 million gallons per day by 2030) from the Tuolumne River. The Hetch Hetchy system carries water from the Yosemite National Park to the Bay Area. The report can be viewed at: [PEIR.sfwater.org](http://peir.sfwater.org).  
Source: <http://www.modbee.com/local/story/61354.html>

24. *September 6, WKMG Local 6 News, Orlando, FL* – **Pathologists: 3rd boy died from**

**waterborne amoeba.** A third child is found to have died from amoebic illness in central Florida. The 14-year-old boy contracted the infection from the local public swimming pool. The medical examiner reported the death to the Orange County Health Department and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, but warnings about the amoeba and their role in a child's death were not distributed until a second child died in August. The third victim's death was reported earlier this week. There is a risk of infection in any freshwater body of water with a temperature over 80 degrees Fahrenheit and any swimming pool not properly maintained.

Source: <http://www.local6.com/news/14058562/detail.html>

25. *September 6, Economist* – **Muddy waters.** Indiana recently approved a plan for BP to expand a refinery and increase their levels of sludge pumped into Lake Michigan. This resulted in protests and petitions, especially by the other states surrounding Lake Michigan (Illinois, Wisconsin, and Michigan). Due to these actions, in late August, BP agreed to limit their discharge into the lake. This incident raised questions surrounding pollution and the Great Lakes. 30 million Americans and numerous Canadians receive their drinking water from the Great Lakes, but it is unclear who is responsible for keeping these lakes clean. There have been various rules created, including the Clean Water Act, but their implementation presents difficulties. The refinery is a case in point. The Clean Water Act allows an increase in pollution, if it is offset by a greater social and/or economic benefit. The refinery provides this benefit, but only to Indiana, and the other states only receive the pollution. Various politicians and the Environmental Protection Agency are working to clarify the rules and to maintain the Great Lakes as a source of clean drinking water.

Source: [http://www.economist.com/world/na/PrinterFriendly.cfm?story\\_id=9767825](http://www.economist.com/world/na/PrinterFriendly.cfm?story_id=9767825)

26. *September 6, MainStreetNews.com* – **Official: Agri-Cycle fire is accidental.** On Wednesday, an apparently accidental fire destroyed the Agri-Cycle wastewater treatment pond in Talmo, Georgia. Arson investigators think an electrical short caused the blaze. Agri-Cycle has been at odds with local and state governments for the past three years and a case between the Georgia Environmental Protection Division and Agri-Cycle is currently under appeal.

Source: <http://www.mainstreetnews.com/2007/September/J0906Agricycle.html>

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## **Public Health and Healthcare Sector**

27. *September 9, AP* – **Report on TB case cites security gaps.** A congressional investigation into officials' inability to stop a tuberculosis patient from leaving the country found significant security gaps, heightening concern about vulnerability to potential cases of pandemic flu or smallpox. The case involving Andrew Speaker involved a series of notification delays and a lack of streamlined reporting systems, according to the congressional report. CDC spokesman Tom Skinner said the agency continues to learn lessons from the incident and is completing its own review.

Source: [http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/20070909/ap\\_on\\_go\\_co/tuberculosis\\_congress](http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/20070909/ap_on_go_co/tuberculosis_congress)

28. *September 7, Atlanta Journal-Constitution* – **U.S. dogs rabies-free, CDC says.** The canine rabies virus has been eliminated in the U.S., federal health experts are expected to announce at



a conference in Atlanta on Friday. "We now know that this virus does not circulate either in Canada or the U.S.," said a CDC official, calling the elimination a "major public health milestone." The canine strain once was the greatest threat of rabies to humans. Without immediate treatment, the virus kills almost all of its victims.

Source: [http://www.ajc.com/news/content/health/stories/2007/09/07/rabies\\_0907.html](http://www.ajc.com/news/content/health/stories/2007/09/07/rabies_0907.html)

29. *September 7, Baltimore Sun* – **Excellus BlueCross BlueShield tackles health insurance claim fraud, waste and abuse with new service from IBM.** Excellus BlueCross BlueShield has contracted to use the new Risk Identification Analysis Service from IBM to help combat health care insurance claim fraud, waste and abuse. According to estimates from the federal government and issues-based groups such as the National Health Care Anti-Fraud Association, as much as 10 percent of all healthcare expenditures in the United States, or \$170 billion, may be lost each year to fraud, waste and abuse. This results in a high cost to private and government insurance payers. The new Risk Identification Analysis Service is based on IBM's Fraud and Abuse Management System (FAMS) technology which was developed by IBM Research and consultants in collaboration with leading healthcare organizations. This technology uses a unique combination of data mining capabilities, visualization techniques and reporting tools to identify questionable behavior before a claim is paid. Retrospectively, it can analyze providers' past behaviors to flag suspicious patterns. It replaces traditional manual processes by sorting through tens of thousands of providers and tens of millions of claims in minutes and ranking providers as to their degree of potentially fraudulent, wasteful, abusive or questionable behavior. By offering this technology as a service, IBM clients are able to leverage advanced data mining technology, and have their healthcare claims analyzed by IBM consultants. The results are then categorized into a series of "next step" business actions and provided to investigators to pursue.

Source: <http://money.cnn.com/news/newsfeeds/articles/marketwire/0298991.htm>

30. *September 6, AP* – **Two more Montana residents die of West Nile virus.** State health officials have confirmed the recent deaths of 2 eastern Montana residents due to West Nile virus. Four Montanans have died of the disease this year, equaling the number of deaths in 2003, which was the worst West Nile season on record in the state. As of Thursday, health officials say there have been a total of 69 human cases of West Nile illness reported in Montana this year, compared to 228 in 2003.

Source: <http://www.montanansnewsstation.com/Global/story.asp?S=7037770>

31. *September 7, New York Times* – **7 After Anthrax diagnosis, spores are found in Connecticut house.** The Danbury, Conn. property where two men people are believed to have contracted anthrax is contaminated with spores of the potentially lethal disease, state officials said on Thursday. Six samples collected from a three-story house and a barn in the backyard tested positive for anthrax, and more samples were gathered on Thursday for additional testing. The anthrax is believed to have come from untreated animal hides brought back from Africa to manufacture drums.

Source: <http://www.nytimes.com/2007/09/07/nyregion/07anthrax.html?ref=nyregion>

32. *September 6, New York Times* – **City hospitals to make data public.** Bowing to public pressure to open the "shrouded culture of many hospitals" and concern over infections

contracted by patients while in hospital care, the New York City Health and Hospitals Corporation, the nation's largest public health system, will voluntarily make public infection and death rates at its 11 hospitals. The city's move, driven by the Mayor's effort to make public health a centerpiece of his administration and the hospital corporation's recent focus on improving patient safety, is a bold step in an industry that has long resisted transparency, experts said. By posting information on the safety and performance of its hospitals on a new Web site, which will be accessible to the public on Friday, the city hospitals, which serve 1.3 million patients annually, are far ahead of the industry, health care experts and consumer advocates said. The new web site will allow the public to see the rate of deaths after heart attacks and preventable bloodstream infections, among other measures, at the 11 hospitals and to compare, say, the performance of Kings County Hospital in Brooklyn to that of the Metropolitan Hospital Center in Manhattan.

Source: <http://www.nytimes.com/2007/09/06/nyregion/thecity/07hospitalcnd.html?hp>

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## **Government Facilities Sector**

33. *September 7, Forbes.com* – **Senate OKs Fort Drum spending.** On Thursday, the U.S. Senate approved a \$347.9 million construction project for Fort Drum, New York. The House approved the funds in May and a conference committee will convene to work out the differences. The project, which includes barracks, unit operations facilities, an Army Reserve Center, a brigade complex, a maintenance facility, and a medical clinic, will support a new brigade.

Source: <http://www.forbes.com/feeds/ap/2007/09/07/ap4093646.html>

34. *September 6, Kansas City Star* – **No injuries in bomb blast at alternative high school in Leavenworth.** A homemade bomb was detonated by the Leavenworth police bomb squad Thursday morning at the North Broadway Education Center in Leavenworth, Kansas. The device was found in the assistant principle's office and no one was injured. There were no classes Friday and the school will be thoroughly inspected before reopening on Monday. Higher security for next week is not planned.

Source: <http://www.kansascity.com/115/story/264195.html>

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## **Emergency Services Sector**

35. *September 7, The Washington Post* – **Disaster planning gets more muscle.** Under pressure from the federal government, the Washington, D.C. and its suburbs are developing their most extensive evacuation plans since the Cold War -- mapping escape routes, stockpiling bedding for shelters and designating pickup points for people who don't have cars. The area's preparations for major disasters were deemed "not sufficient" last year in a nationwide study by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. The agency identified problems in coordinating response, evacuation, medical care and the release of information to the public during a terrorist attack or other emergency. The capital and suburbs have engaged in a frenzy of planning. Officials are spending \$1.4 million in federal grant money to create a regional

evacuation plan, due out this fall. The D.C. area has spent about \$3 million in the past year on blankets, cots and prepared meals.

Source: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2007/09/06/AR2007090602739.html?hpid=topnews>

36. *September 6, EMSresponder.com* – **Texas college buys ambulance simulator for EMT students.** Students at Texas State Technical College's Emergency Medical Technician program will have a sense of realism injected into their studies this semester. An ambulance simulator, which looks like the medical compartment of a fully equipped ambulance, will be their latest classroom tool. The equipment, which includes the ambulance and two cameras from which teachers can observe students as they train, was purchased with grant money from the University of Texas at San Antonio Health Science Center.
- Source: <http://www.emsresponder.com/article/article.jsp?siteSection=1&id=6113>

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## **Information Technology**

37. *September 07, Security Products Online* – **Report cites decreased security breaches via encryption solutions.** SafeNet Inc. announced the availability of a new research report on encryption and key management that shows the increased degree to which organizations have deployed encryption technologies in order to protect sensitive data. Conducted by the Aberdeen Group, the study also provides information on the approaches organizations have taken to lower operational costs, reduce risk, establish consistent security policies, and sustain regulatory compliance. “The Aberdeen Group's research is proof positive that companies should and are employing holistic strategies to encryption and key management,” said a representative from SafeNet’s commercial security division. “Using full-disk, database, storage, and application encryption products, in combination with hardware security modules, tokens and smart cards, companies are safely protecting sensitive information thereby preventing potentially devastating data breaches,” he said. According to the report, Best-in-Class companies--the top 20 percent of aggregate performance scorers--are investing in automated key management and key distribution capabilities to cope with and benefit from a broader use of encryption. Compared to all companies surveyed, the Best-in-Class supported 1.9 times more keys with an estimated 34 percent lower total annual cost on a per-key basis. For a complete copy of the Aberdeen Group report on encryption and key management, visit [www.safenet-inc.com/aberdeen](http://www.safenet-inc.com/aberdeen).
- Source: <http://www.secprodonline.com/articles/50159/>

38. *September 07, Reuters* – **Microsoft says some way to go on software piracy.** Microsoft on Friday said it may take decades to tackle software piracy in large emerging economies, despite some recent progress, and called on Asian governments to invest more in policing the practice. “We are realistic in recognizing that we have to work diligently over periods, that are really a decade or two, to make real progress in a number of these environments,” said Microsoft’s chief research and strategy officer. He also noted that progress had been made in countries like China and Vietnam in recent years to tackle software pirates, which cost the company billions of dollars each year. However, he said more needed to be done to police the problem, especially from the side of enforcement. “Most of the Asian countries have the laws, some of

the regulations – they probably need tuning up – but the biggest weakness is, very few of them have made the necessary investment on the enforcement side.” Microsoft has made progress in China, where the piracy rate has dropped to 82 percent this year from 94 percent four years ago, he said. The piracy rate is a measure of the level of pirated software in the country. China President Hu Jintao last year pledged to crack down on software piracy.

Source: [http://news.com.com/Microsoft+says+some+way+to+go+on+software+piracy/2100-1014\\_3-6206677.html](http://news.com.com/Microsoft+says+some+way+to+go+on+software+piracy/2100-1014_3-6206677.html)

39. *September 06, AP* – **Accusation of ID theft by file-sharing.** A Seattle man has been arrested in what the Justice Department described as its first case against someone accused of using file-sharing digital data to commit identity theft. Gregory Thomas Kopiloff primarily used Limewire's file-sharing program to troll other people's computers for financial information, which he used to open credit cards for an online shopping spree, federal prosecutors said Thursday. Kopiloff was arrested Wednesday. According to a four-count indictment, he bought at least \$73,000 worth of goods online — including iPods and laptop computers — then resold those items at half-price and kept the proceeds. Authorities said they have identified at least 83 victims — most of whom have teenage children and did not know the file-sharing software was on their computer. But investigators also said they believe the number of people affected was in the hundreds — and that in all they lost hundreds of thousands of dollars. Though people have been prosecuted for using networks to illegally share copyrighted music, movies and software, the Justice Department called this the first version of an equally — if not more — troubling matter. Each day, computer users inadvertently share hundreds of thousands of sensitive files through such programs, from banking statements and medical records to tax returns and legal documents, according to the chief executive of Tiversa Inc., a firm that monitors file-sharing. Typically the mistakes occur when a user downloads file-sharing software and accidentally allows it to share all files on a computer, rather than just music files, for example. “If you are running file-sharing software, you are giving criminals the keys to your computer,” said an assistant U.S. district attorney. “Criminals are getting access to incredibly valuable information.”

Source:

[http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/20070907/ap\\_on\\_hi\\_te/id\\_theft;\\_ylt=AvqkAF9CxHfsR6rjh8TR4IBk24cA](http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/20070907/ap_on_hi_te/id_theft;_ylt=AvqkAF9CxHfsR6rjh8TR4IBk24cA)

40. *September 06, Cnet* – **Cybercrime committed 'every 10 seconds' in Britain, report says.** A cybercrime is committed every 10 seconds in Britain, criminals abusing the anonymity of the online world to carry out offences from unwanted sexual approaches to online fraud, according to a study published Thursday. The UK Cybercrime report, commissioned by online criminology firm 1871 Ltd, suggested that more than three million offences were committed online last year. The author of the report said, “Although measuring cybercrime is difficult, it is clear that in many instances it is outstripping 'traditional' crime.” Online security firm Garlik compiled the figures and found that individuals and not organizations were the intended target of more than 60 percent of the online offences. Topping the list of offences was online harassment, including abusive e-mails and offensive allegations posted on websites and chatrooms. There were also 850,000 instances of sex crimes, where individuals were ‘cyberstalked’ or received unwanted sexual approaches, for example. Garlik also found that there were 207,000 financial frauds committed last year – up more than 30 percent on a similar

study in 2005. There were 92,000 cases of identity theft and 144,500 cases of hacking into another PC. Experts also warned that not enough is being done to tackle the problem.

Source:

[http://news.yahoo.com/s/afp/20070906/tc\\_afp/britaininternetfraudcrime;\\_ylt=AtD4sOn0ph0bmNrhyBqQE6sjtBAF](http://news.yahoo.com/s/afp/20070906/tc_afp/britaininternetfraudcrime;_ylt=AtD4sOn0ph0bmNrhyBqQE6sjtBAF)

### Internet Alert Dashboard

To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US-CERT at [soc@us-cert.gov](mailto:soc@us-cert.gov) or visit their Website: [www.us-cert.gov](http://www.us-cert.gov).

Information on IT information sharing and analysis can be found at the IT ISAC (Information Sharing and Analysis Center) Website: <https://www.it-isac.org/>.

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## Communications Sector

41. *September 06, RCR News* – **New survey says wireless call quality improving.** Wireless call quality continues to improve, with customers seeing a reduction in initial disconnects in particular, according to the most recent J.D. Power and Associates report on call quality. The study, which was based on responses from more than 25,000 wireless users earlier this year, found that reports of problems were at their lowest level in the survey's five-year history. Customers reported 15 problems per 100 calls, which was down almost 30% from the same reporting period last year. J.D. Power reported that initial disconnects were down by 40 percent year-over-year and reports of dropped calls were down by 33 percent. However, the survey did find that customers who used hands-free devices were more likely to report having problems—18 problems per 100 calls on average, compared to 14 problems per 100 calls among customers who did not use hands-free accessories. A Powers representative said one reason for the difference is that “owners of hands-free devices tend to make calls more often than do those who don’t use these devices, and high-volume callers are more likely to experience call quality problems in general.” He added that “as more wireless subscribers begin using hands-free devices for convenience, the rate of call quality problems may increase as the probability rises for quality interference between the headset and cellphone.”

Source: <http://www.rcrnews.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20070906/FREE/70906006/1008>

42. *September 06, RCR News* – **Senators take on industry with wireless consumer protection bill.** Two Senate members today unveiled a wireless consumer protection bill, setting the stage for a battle between lawmakers and the mobile-phone industry that's likely to play out into the 2008 election season. The coming legislation goes further than setting federal standards governing contracts, billing-service quality and other wireless industry practices. It also directs the Federal Communications Commission to submit to Congress a study on handset locking and its effect on consumer behavior and competition. The FCC would become a tough enforcer of wireless protection guidelines under the measure. “The rules governing our wireless industry are a relic of the 1980s, when cellphones were a luxury item that fit into a briefcase instead of a pocket,” said Sen. Amy Klobuchar (D-Minn.), lead sponsor of a bill that could be introduced as soon as tomorrow. “Early termination fees are a family budget-buster; families should be able to terminate service without outrageous fees; know if their cellphone will work on their drives and in their home and office; and understand what to expect in their monthly

bills once you pile on charges and fees. It's a simple matter of fairness." Senator Jay Rockefeller (D-W.Va.) said: "Anyone who looks at a cellphone bill knows it's a hodge-podge of fees and surcharges that supposedly covers regulatory or administrative costs. The reality is, often these are nothing more than operating costs that companies are passing on to the consumer disguised as fees and taxes," said Rockefeller. "It's high time to protect cellphone users from these deceptive billing practices." Steve Largent, president of cellphone association CTIA, countered the Senators' statements, saying, "the truth is that complaints about wireless service to the FCC are infrequent and declining." And that "the most recently published FCC data, which was absent from the senators' announcement, clearly shows that contract-related complaints, as well as overall wireless complaints, are falling."

Source: <http://www.rcrnews.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20070906/FREE/70906001/1005>

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## **Commercial Facilities Sector**

Nothing to report

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## **National Monuments & Icons Sector**

43. *September 7, San Francisco Chronicle* – **Global warming threatens nation's public lands.**

In a congressional investigative report to be released this week, the Government Accountability Office asks various government agencies to improve their management of climate change's effects on the millions of acres it oversees. The report was requested in 2004 and examines how global warming is already affecting national parks, monuments, forests, and seashores. After analyzing several government agencies, the GAO concluded that government employees are not given sufficient direction in dealing with the problems created by global warming.

Source: <http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?file=/chronicle/archive/2007/09/07/MN2SS0D28.DTL&type=politics>

44. *September 6, News 10 Now, Watertown, New York* – **Ogdensburg residents tired of vandalism to monument.** A bronze soldier on a city monument in Ogdensburg, New York is the target of repeated vandalism. Due to the severity of the damage, the city decided to remove the statue and place it in a safer location. The possibility of a replica in a sturdier material replacing the current bronze soldier is under consideration.

Source: [http://news10now.com/content/all\\_news/?ArID=119046&SecID=83](http://news10now.com/content/all_news/?ArID=119046&SecID=83)

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## **Dams Sector**

45. *September 7, Oregonean* – **Warning sounded on 84-year-old dam's safety.** Little Hyatt Lake, a county road, and the Pacific Crest Trail have all been closed due to fears of the possible imminent failure of the Little Hyatt Lake dam. Although the dam has been leaking for over ten years, the amount of water coming through the cracks has substantially increased over



the past week. There are no homes in the flood plain. The Bureau of Land Management began draining the dam today and is considering either buttressing the structure or breaching it.

Source:

<http://www.oregonlive.com/news/oregonian/index.ssf?/base/news/1189130129313420.xml&coll=7>

46. *September 7, Idaho Mountain Express* – **Fish Creek Dam deemed high hazard.** The privately owned Fish Creek Dam is one of four “high-hazard” dams in Idaho, according to the Association of Dam Safety Officials. The structure dates from the 1930s and is only allowed to hold half of its capacity, due to safety concerns. The Idaho Department of Water Resources has mandated repairs to the dam, which began in 2003.

Source: <http://www.mtexpress.com/index2.php?ID=2005116968>

47. *September 7, News-Democrat & Leader* – **Fletcher announces funding to repair Spa Lake Dam.** The governor of Kentucky announced funding of \$100,000 to pay for repairs to the Spa Lake Dam, which has suffered from leaks, erosion, and a sinkhole. The lake is the only source of water for the area’s largest manufacturer, as well as being a recreational and environmental area. Repairs are expected to start in October.

Source: <http://www.newsdemocratleader.com/articles/2007/09/07/news/news04.txt>

48. *September 5, San Jose Mercury News* – **Schwarzenegger administration promotes new dams as delta fix.** The governor of California resurrected his plan to build two new dams as a way to increase California’s water supply after last week’s ruling by a federal judge, limiting the amount of water pumped from the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta. In addition to the new dams, the proposal also recommends a study of a fresh water canal from the Sacramento River around the delta. It is unlikely that the governor’s plan will be accepted by the state legislature, which recently struck down another dam proposal.

Source: [http://www.mercurynews.com/breakingnews/ci\\_6811232](http://www.mercurynews.com/breakingnews/ci_6811232)

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To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US-CERT at [soc@us-cert.gov](mailto:soc@us-cert.gov) or visit their Web page at [www.us-cert.gov](http://www.us-cert.gov).

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